



CANADA: Light showers swept across the Prairies, with just a few locations reporting rainfall in excess of 10 mm. The drier conditions were very timely as most areas had recently reported problems due to excessive moisture, notably with haying and other fieldwork. Temperatures averaging 1 to 2 degrees C below normal slowed the drying process, however, with lows commonly reaching the low single digits. Except for drought-stricken sections of southern Alberta, crop development is still slightly behind schedule, although spring grain and oilseed harvesting was underway in the more southerly agricultural districts. The first autumn freeze generally occurs in late August or early September, but crops are reportedly maturing rapidly and are expected to be out of danger soon. In eastern Canada, heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) caused localized field ponding and potential crop damage in southern Quebec. In contrast, mostly dry weather covered most major crop areas of Ontario, aiding haying operations, winter wheat harvesting, and summer crop development. Except for the earliest planted varieties, summer crops in eastern Canada are reportedly well behind schedule due to planting delays and low heat accumulations, necessitating warmer conditions for the remainder of the growing season. The first autumn freeze typically occurs in late September in the more northerly crop areas and early to mid-October in the Lakes region.